#### THE EUROPEAN NEWS.

ASPECT OF THE PEACE QUESTION.

Views in London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna.

The Basis of Megotiations in 1855 and 1256.

THE DIPLOMATIC HISTORY OF THE WAR.

THE PRIVATE VIEWS OF THE EMPERORS.

WHAT WILL BE THE FATE OF ENGLAND?

Our London, Paris, Madrid, Berlin, Vienna, Constantinople and Sebastopol Correspondence,

&c.,

Additionally to the voluminous extracts from our European files from French, English, Russian, Austrian and Prussian sources-of the important ews brought by the Persia, and the commercial rculars of several of the leading houses of London and Liverpool, exhibiting the commercial and nancial aspect of the news, we publish to-day our respondence from the principal capitals of Enrope, together with a full diplomatic history of the war. With all these data the public can perhaps rm some idea of the effect the peace rumors have had in Europe, and of the probable result of the egotiations which we are led to suppose are about

The latest dates from Liverpool and London are to the 26th, Paris 25th, Berlin and Vienna 24th, and St. Petersburg 22d ult.

LONDON, Jan. 25, 1856. Mr. Buchanan Right-Lord Palmerston's Pugnacity very Dangerous-His Love of a Row-Peace Prospects-Negotiating Direct with Russia-The Anglo-French Alliance in Danger-The Funds-Theatricals.

The Central American question, that seriously threaten the most unpleasant results, has received a prompt dution, so far as public opinion is concerned, by the ublication of the respective despatches, and, more than l', by the able and striking article of the London Times

Notwithstanding the sophistry of Lord Clarendon's rguments, conveyed in most approved diplomatic lan-uege, the common sense and right feeling of this counry go entirely with Mr. Buchanan in his straight forard views, expressed with so much clearness, force nd dignified moderation. Justice must be done to the mes, too, for, seemingly conscious of its bad behaviour Mr. Buchapan some time back, first in misrepresenting im, and then in refusing to repair its error, it now oes not hesitate to compliment the American Minister oth for the ability he has displayed in these negotiaions, and for his elevation of tone and language.

So tar, then, as pub ic opinion is concerned, the disute about Central America may be considered settled; ut you may depend on it Lord Palmerston will not give up so easily. There is a great likelihood of his lord-his losing his senses before long, if things should go n in the frightfully pacific manner they promise. The sucden cossation of the war with Russia, if carried

in spite of the British Prime Minister, is bad enough; t to rob him of the delight of wrangling with the Unied States, and keeping both countries in hot water for nany months, perhaps years to come, is little short of frect cruelty on the part of the Times and the sensible iblic of this country. Whilst everybody must admit splendid talents of Lord Palmerston, and his unpared experience in public affairs, there is no denying at his lordship has a peculiarity which affords a deal fun to himself, but an infinite amount of annoyance to He has all an Irishman's love of a and, and hels never so completely happy as when he as got everybody quarrelling, growling, and abusing ach other. Depend on it, therefore, that Lord Palmers-on is of the epinion of Sir Lucius, that the Central rican dispute is "a pretty quarrel as it stands," and will keep it up just as long as public opinion here will ar it or his teaure of office will allow.

Every day adds to the probability of peace with Rusa. It is reported that orders have been sent from St. etersburg to the Crimea to suspend military operations. ois is an adroit manoruvre, and forces an armistice upon allies, to which England is greatly opposed. Lord ne allies, to which England is greatly opposed. Lord almerston is disposed to imitate Napoleon in his first impegn in Italy, and to fight whilst he gottiates. France, however, is holding back, and tere is no doubt that all I have stated my previous letters, of the determination of our Napoleon to make peace is strictly true. He has sted in this matterwith his usual decision and indepensione, and has been carrying on his negotiations direct in the Emperor of Russia, regardless whether Lord Paterston liked it or mt. When I stated a month ago, no subt to your astonishment, that the alliance against us is was really at an end, I declared no more than the tents of every day are rapidly confirming. The discipled of peace has given a natural clasticity to the financial and commercial vorld. The funds have shot up here the singular buoyancy, and speculation has already ceived an impetus that will lead to extraordinary realts, if not checked by new complications that may possibly arise.

its, if not checked by new complications that may posolly arise.

At no previous time have theatricals been more prosrows. The theatres and other public resorts are nightcrowded, by common report, and the emergements
ast be making a good thing of it. The star of Professor
derson is still in the ascendant. The ingenious advering of his factotum, Hingston, has given the "Wizard"
ch wide celebrity that people run after him, whether
play tricks for than or upon them. To the surprise
paygoers he sudcealy transformed himself from a contor into an actor, and has been doing Rob Roy Macger, O. A rich bit of burlesque was expected, but, on
contrary, it turned out a racy bit of good melo-dratic acting.

acting.

alty has been indulging too, in theatricals at Windtle and "Her Majesty's servants," called from the

## Our Constantinople Correspondence.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 10, 1856. gh Prices of Provisions-The War-The French in

Constantinopic, de. irain, flour, pork and beef are all extremely dear, latter being £8 a £10 (\$40 a \$50) per barrel. These es must continue for some months to come, for this ntry produces nothing for sale, and France and Eng-

he war will certainly continue for another year or

he French are quietly taking possession of all parts onstantinople, and will not leave it. John Bull is

### Our Sebastopol Correspondence.

SEBASTOPOL, Des. 7, 1855.

vels Around the Peninsula—Prevalence of Fever—The ye Palks and Road Tracks-Snow, Slush and Mad-Mill-ry Mer. Everywhere-Sad Scenes in the City-Ils Former nuly and Grandeur-Probability that the People Lef Early During the Siege-False Reports of the French and English-The Russian Fire-Immense Rats anatheir couldstone-Shocking Scows for Romantic Heroes-The olan, Malakoff, Hagstaff and Other Batteries-Igno-race of the British Engineers-Terrible Slaughter and no exits-Out Door Lodging-A Sea Trip and Danger of

s now pearly two months since I arrived in the Crimea. by first visit, the weather was very warm, and a fever lar to the Chagres fever, both in its general fatality og those attacked, and i s debilitating effects on those it does not summarily take off, prevailed to a gres nt. With the exception of a week or ten days which nt in Constantinople and the surrounding country, I been here ever since. When I inform you that dur-that whole time I have been continually moving to by land or sea, you will, I think, believe that I

it to know something about the country.

y portion of this once beautiful town is now as fato me as New York, and equally so, are Kameisch. lava, "Donny Brook," or as it is now called, Kadikai, opinions—from all comment on the people, policy, government, and prebable destiny of the several countries which I have whited—until satisfied of my competency to speak of them from practical examination, and reliable formation, is the main cause of my long silence. Personal adventure and ludicrous incident meeting me at every step, multiplied so rapidly that even a passing allusion to them in a paper like the HERALD soon became utterly impracticable.

Previous to the commencement of the rainy season, which was somewhere about the 20th of last mouth (November), the whole country was intersected in every direction by travelled paths, which were as plainly discerrection by travalet paths, which were as plainly discer-nible during daylight as if they had been regular roads; but the alternate rain, snow and sleet which so inces-rantly poured down, speedily converted them and the whole surface of the new cheerless waste through which they passed into one trackless bed of slush and mud. During the fine weather you would occasionally meet persons other than soldiers and camp followers, but for se veral weeks past I have not seen outside Kamiesch and

Balaklava a single civilian.

It is impossible to conceive anything more dreary than at aspect of the entire Crimes, and time and repeated familiarity are alike powerless to even mo dify the indescribable feeling of heart-oppressing sadness which I experienced during my first solitary walk through this descried town. With what truthful simplicity and force Gortschakoff expressed its condition when he said that "the enemy would find nothing in Sebastopol but blackened stained ruins!" I do not remember having seen a single house which escaped the shot and shell of the besiegers, while more than four-fifths of the town is one shapeless mass of ruins. Never was destruction more complete—desolation more appalling. It must have been a most delightful little rown. That it was so, is fully proved by everything remaining. The streets, with very few exceptions, run at right angles, or nearly so, and the houses were all built in the most substantial manuer. The remains of many show that they must have been truly elegant and spacious. The walls are of massive thickness, and constructed of the light yellowish volcanic stone of the country. The contrast between the nearly whitewashed walls and the bright red tiles which invariably formed the roofs of the houses, must have given Sebastopol, in the days of its peaceful prosperity, a most charming and picturesque appearance. Every habita-tion seems to have had its court yard or garden, or both. and everything you meet, either inside or out of them, bears melancholy testimony to the former happiness and prosperi'y of the inhabitants, whom the merciless rigors of a war, as seemingly aimless in its objects as it is ruinous to all engaged, have long since driven in despairing

flight from their homes. The greater portion of the people must have let; at a very early stage of the siege, as it would have been utterly impossible for them to have escaped annihilation under such storms of fire and iron as descended on the place. When I first came here I found the town just as the Russians had left it, and it really seemed as if there were shot and shell enough laying ab ut to pave it three times over. I then walked for hours through it alone, without meeting a soul, save the few sentiuels who were posted in the least exposed portions. There never was the slightest foundation for those statements contained in the English and French papers about its streets being mined and blown up. There is not a single street in the whole place but is just as perfect now as it was the day war was de-clared, spart from the furrows and indentations created by the shot and shell of the allies. The false statement was combiless put firth with the view of shielding the besiegers as much as possible from the imputation which their failure to pursue the Russians would so naturally

siegers as much as possible from the imputation which their failure to pursue the Russians would so naturally excite.

When it is recollected that long before the final assault took place, the voluntary abandonment of the south side by Gortechakoff was positively anticipated by the alicip commanders, and predicted by the British press, the unmolested manner in which the whole Russian army was enabled to cross the great harbor on a sing e beat bridge, unequivecally demonstrates the high respect with which its skill, valor, and obstinacy had at length impressed the invacers. Had it been otherwise, no-hing existed to prevent a most disastrous pursuit. The streets are wide, and a large mejority of the houses, even when standing, were but a single story high.

A death-like-stillness reigns here now, which is only broken by the occasional roating of the Russian guns and mortars on the north side, and the whizzing and bursting of the shells sometimes in dangerous proximity. To these, however, I must add the chartined squeeling of the huge and disgating rats, who everywhere seem, on the departure of human beings, to have swarmed in their place. Several of those loath-some pawn broking locking rascals are now closely eying me, and evitently speculating within thouselves, with true ratilike cunning, upon the ridiculous, though to them, qui e probable prospect of my speedily becoming food for them. Here, as in the Redan, Miskain, Flagstaff, and other batteries, they are to be seen in myriads, running and diving in every direction, in revolting and audacious search after the perishing flesh of those mangled heroes who ile mouldering beneath the runs.

The white fregments of the houses, looking like so nany tomb stones, give the place, as you approach it, the apperaame of a great grave yard. For hundreds of

The white fragments of the houses, looking like so many tomb stones, give the place, as you approach it, the appearance of a great grave yard. For hundreds of acres in every direction around it, cannon balls and unexploded and shattered shell lie so thick that you are compelled to pick your steps in passing through them. It me the the property of the day in examining the Redan, Malakoff Flagstaff. Central bastion and other fortifications, and am conexpleded and shattered shell lis so thick that you are compelled to pick your steps in passing through them. It wenty or thir y times, I have spent a large portion of the day in examining the Redan, Malakoff Flagstaff. Central bastlon and other fortifications, and am constrained to say that the skill and energy displayed in their hurried construction were only equalled by the unifinching heroism with which they were subsequently so pertinaciously defended. The relative strength of the Malakoff and Redan are sadly misunderstood by those who have never seen them, and truth, not love, compels me to say that the injury inflicted on British military reputation through this ignorance, is as meanly unjust as it is apparently irreparable. The British engineers are justly censurable for not having as vanced their approaches and parallels nearer than two hundred paces from the Redan, while the French run thoirs to within the wenty of the Malakoff; and General Simpson is equally blameable for not having insisted that the assault, if determined on under such circumstances, should be made on each fortification by troops jointly composed of both French and British. The importance of the Malakoff's position has been confounded with its strength as a fortification; whereas, in the latter respect, it is no more to be compared to the Redan than a wooden shed is to a well built stone house. When you gaze at the vast number of heavy guns which look down from every conceivable direction as you approach the salient angle of the latter, and which must have swept with their direct and cross fire every inch of the intervening space, it seems really incredible how a single man could have remained on his legs during the fearful rush from their deven remarks to the counterscarp of the enemy's terrible works, a distance of two hundred paces, over the most difficult ground imaginable.

The limits of a letter will not admit of even a partial description of the scene presented by the inside of the Redan or Malakoff. The former begars descript

# Our Madrid Correspondence. MADRIB, Jan. 18, 1856.

Madeur, Jan. 18, 1856.

The Change of the Ministry—Dissatisfaction of all Parties—
Chanacter of the New Ministers—Insurrection—Civil
Disorders to Come—Expartero's Sand Running Out—The
Revolution at Hand—The Democrats—The Authors of
the Mutiny of the 7th of January Still Untried—Spain Flooded-Roads Destroyed-Prices High and Laborers Starring, de., de.

The announced modification of the ministry has at last taken place. After a thousand laborious combinations, a sort of patched up result of the efforts of government has been produced, but in such an unfinished shape that the press and public opinion have pronounced sgainst it. Three—no more—is the number of ministers who have left their posts: that of the Interior, Public Works

and Grace and Justice.

For the Interior they have named Don Patricio de Escosura, Deputy to the Cortes and Minister Plenipotentia ry in Lisben; for Public Works, the Brigadier Don Francisco Luxan, Deputy to the Cortes; and for Grace and Justice, Don José Añas Uria, Deputy, and formerly a

The Senor Escosura is a man of accommodating and racillating opinions, for when he saw himself slighted by the "moderados," to whose party he belonged, he became a "progressista;" and to is certain that if a Turkish government were to be established in Spain he would become a Mussulman. He speaks a great deal with not much in it, has pretty strong lungs and is very unpopu lar. His politico-ministerial existence will be

school, which means those who have been figuring for many years. The country is astonished that a man like many years. Ine-country is astenished that a man like this should return to the ministry, which he left but a few months since on account of unitiness, and other unfavorable qualities which have readered him unpopular. If a tew months since he wousehout ds for minister, who choose him now?—now, when the situation of the country is more critical than it was six months since? Seno-Luxan is a misfortune for the administration and the country.

Luxan is a misfortune for the administration and the country.

The Senor Añas Uria is an unknown man, endowed with no particular marits, eitner as deputy or in his legal career.—in shert, he is nothing. He is a good gadleyo, who will go on like a donkey with the opinion of his companions—he will do what he is told.

There remain then, Espartero, President of the Council; O'Donnell, Minister of War; Bruil, Minister of Finance; Santa Cruz, Minister of Marine; and Zavala, Minister of Santa.

O'Donnell, Minister of War; Bruil, Minister of Finance; Santa Crus, Minister of Marine; and Zavala, Minister of Sate.

It is very certain that that the nation is getting tirel of a situation of things so unpleasant as the present, and that Epartero has nearly lost all his prestige. It is indubitable that O'Donnell; associated with some generals of suspicious antecedents, is endeavoring to pervert the situation created by the revolution of July, and that he situation created by the revolution of July, and that he situation created by the revolution of July, and that he situation of the government, and the insignificance and nullity of a majority of the deputies, and the general dissatisfaction of well meaning men.

Thus the assouncement of this new ministry is also that of cincutes, revolts, &c., which will follow, and the results of which it is not easy to foreell. Democracy is called upon to figure; democratic opinions stain ground in proportion as the government loses it, and the want of energy and of knowledge of Espartery, of the Assembly, and of the government, is the cause of the delay in the path of that progress which the country desires. There is nothing left but to appeal to a revolution, which will be a bloody one. This is the last resource of a people when their cries of desperation are unheesed. The soldlers of the mational muitta, who revolted when on guard at the Cortes, have not as yet been tried; they are still in prison, and each day which passes, their criminality decreases, looking at the strange and uncertain path of the government presided over by Espartery and managed by O'Donaell. The minds of all are exasperated with so many pieces of stupidity on the part of the administration.

As if the cholera, which has just disappeared, had not

with so many passes of the ministration.

As it the cholers, which has just disappeared, had not been enough to render pitiable the situation of Spain, rains and heavy storms are desolating the country. Everything is paralyzed; the roads, which are destroyed and inundated by the waters, do not permit the transit of articles of the first necessity, and everything is going up in price; there is no province which has not to lament the losses caused by such continual floods. All the coasts of Spain are full of vessels on shore and wrecks thrown up by the waves. The disorder of nature appears to be in harmony with that of the men who govern this country.

in harmony with that of the men who govern this country.

Erem the Nacion (organ of the Ministry), I translate for you the following paragraph:—

We can conceive opposition, radical, intolerant, and exculsive; we can comprehend that the modecades should see nothing good outsice of their own p lipy; we are not astonished that the retrograde party should dissent from coefficies more liberal than their own, and we can even accept as a necessary consequence, that the ultras should never be in accord with us. But what cannot be explained satisfactorily—what cannot be seen except in spain or rather, is the press of Madrid—is, that a modification of the Ministry should unite all the oppositions, as well those who wear the badge of liberty and order, as those others who write on their banners the divise right of sings, or the three words—Liberty, Equality, Fracernity.

From the Swereignty (democratic organ) I translate the

vise right of sings, or the three words—Liberty, Equality, Francerity.

From the Sovereignty (democratic organ) I translate the following:—

In proportion, and at the same time that General Espartero leses his popularity, General O'Dannell is filling up the files of the army. This ought to have a gravesig nification for the progressistas of good faith. For us it certainly has.

Again: The same journal describes the situation of the country in the following words:—

Everybody is diseastished; deep complaints arise from every class; men of property pay their endomous taxes cursing the government; labor as destroyd; the stricts of the towns are filled with hungry laborers begging their bread, trade is possessed of a mortal stupor; the ministerial changes carry alarm into the ranks of public office hidders; complete anarchy flourishes in our provinces; the people, in almost all parts, are struggling with the autacrities; passions are heated, hates are cherished; capitalists have taken the alarm; fear multiplies itself, articles of the first necessity grow still dearer, misery is extended like a leproy, and in all directions carries along with it vice and crime.

Such is our situation—very fit for insurrections and disarrer. Such is our situation-very fit for insurrections and

Such is our situation—very fit for insurrections and disorder.

The Fpoca, organ of the military power, says:—
Fersons, who merit great credit, and who have given us news, although incomplete, in advance of the eventer Monday, tell us now that events are preparing analogous to that attempt made against the Cortes; but that this time their proportions are greater, and their importance much higher.

Two days afterwards it repeats:—
It is naturat that our information should have caused a vivid impression. We ought to be believed, however, forasmuch as we predicted a month before the outbreak of the 7th that an attempt was about to be made against Gen. O'Donnell, and the majority of the deputies, which would take place in the hall of the Auembly itself. Perhaps it was owing to that Minister's not being present that the affair was of no more consequence. To-day, we say that a new 7th of January and a new 28th of August are preparing; that the works are carried on on a great scale, and that persons who have the entire in political regions are not ignorant of the plans of the future revoregions are not ignorant of the plans of the future revo-lution. The temperatuous debates to which it is believed the question of finance will give rise will present a con-verient field for certain patrotic manifestations. We think, also, that the government is not ignorant of what is massing.

#### THE PEACE QUESTION.

The Reported Negotiations—The Feeling in London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna-Diplomatic Bistory of the War-Official Circulars, Peace Propositions, Counter Propositions and Manifestoes Views of the Imperors, dec.,

# THE REPORTED NEGOTIATIONS.

### OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

LONDON, Friday, January 25, 1856 The Great Question of Peace or War—Impression in Europe.

Europe is still rather in the dark as to what is going to

take place. A few days more and all will be cleared up. The preliminaries of peace cannot be signed on the strength of a telegraphic despatch. The document itself, bearing the Russian signature of acceptation, must first be received. It is ere this at Vienou, and probably at London and Paris, and a copy of it will soon find its way into one of the London journals.

The fifth article promises to be the stumbling block to the preliminaries. With all due deference to the superior diplomacy of the gentlemen who drew up those proposals, I think it would have been as well if they had defined what the points were that were kept in reserve. Why not have stated them at once? It would have saved trouble. The fifth article is in fact so generally worded that it might be liable to any interpretation. It is said that what England means is: prohibition to reconstruct the fortress of Bomarsund; a more precise definition of the Russo-Turkish frontier in Asia, and the establishment of European consuls in the different ports of the Black Sea. The latter point is, however, contained already in the fourth article of the proposals, which says: "The protection of the commercial and maritime interests of all nations shall be assured in the ports of the Black Sea by the establishment of institutions conformable to international law and to the usages established in such matters." It is, moreover, hinted at that the fifth article means to refer to the settlement of the Polish and Italian questions. This I very much doubt.

The French government is decidedly peaceably

clined. The English government is not so much so. I fears trickery, and thinks that a Baltic campaign in the

spring could settle the question at once and for ever.

In Italy the announcement has carried a feeling o general depression among the patriots. They regard peace as a death blow to the hopes they secretly entertained of a regeneration of Italy. The same feeling pre-

valis among the Poles and Hungarians.

Meantime, pending negotiations the blockade of the Russian ports in the Baltic has recommenced, and various trading vessels have been captured by our cruisers. The miid weather had enabled no less than 00 vessels to convey cargoes to Russian ports. The report that orders had been sent to suspend hosti-

ities is not true. Parliament meets in a few days, and the session pro-

mises long debates. There is no truth in the rumored likely resignation of 'almerston & Co. He is advocated as a fit representative of Fugiand at the Conferences; Count de Morny for France; Stunew or Bouteniell for Russia. Wags say Prince Mens

There has not been any fighting. The expected attacks on Kersch and Kinburn had not taken place up to last s dvices.

Morey marke, continues on sant.

OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENCE.

Martling Effects of the Peace News—Nothing Like is Since the Beturn of Napoleon from Elba—Quick Dispersion of the Council of War—The Case Himself Surprised— Points to be Negotiated—England's Representative—Th British Orimon Midale Chunsy and Lost by the Soldier -Feeling Respecting Central America An America Laussutt-Public Improvements—The Napoleon Dynast Since the andden annous

from Eibs access amongs which at that epoch in the world's history was sitting at Vienna, there has been nothing so startling as the recent pacific intimation of Russia. At that time veteran warriors, grave states men, actute diplematists, were busily occupied, in con-fortable easy chairs, alicing up countries with their scis-sors, and pasting on card-board a new and symmetrical map of Europe, when, suddenly, their occupation was radely interrupted by the intelligence that Napoleon was at Paris, the restored Bourbon at Ghent, and a hundred thousand of the bravest trooms in the world servers. at Paris, the restored Bourpon at tunnt, and a numbere thousand of the bravest troops in the world were ready to march wherever the victor of a handred battles commanded them to follow. Commastlers, warriors, diplomatists, noble princes, secretaries and all, spread themselves out like the sticks of a fan, and fied back to those that sent them. Then, it was the genius of war that brought about the dispersion. Now, it is the white robed messenger of peace who produces the same magical results. But a few days ago there was assembled in this capital a council of scarce less solemnity than that which capital a council of scarce less soleumity than that which fairly jears ago met at Vienna. The composition, to be sure, was slightly different, for at the head of the council board sat Napoleon Bonaparte; by his side, the brother of the former banished Emperor, surrounded by the representative of English royalty—the Duke of Cambridge—Admiral. Lyons, and twenty others. ers—marshals, generals and admirals of France—intent on sketching out a campaign which in its result, should reconstruct the European map, and eripple for a century one of the foremost powers of the world Reviews, distributions of medals, balls, dinners, files, degged the footsteps of these personages on each occasion when the council rose. All Europe was playing be-peep to pick up a word. Newspaper correspondents were prowling about diplomatic edifices for but a crumb ot information. The monied interest was fluttering like a stricken bird—the mother's heart blei for her son, over whom the fate of battles hung—the martial youth of Europe went to bed and dreamt of cyrpses, medals. batons, peersges and princedoms, when, all at once, everything is turned upside down, the Council of War has vanished like a vapor, its English contingent is flying in hot haste across the Channel, the funds jump up six or seven per cent, the warrior's arm is withheld sent to every seaport for the workmen to hold their hands, and provinces and munitions of war are suddenly s glut in the market.

It is really impossible to describe the intense excite ment which continues to prevail in every circle. Every the has evidently been caught "napping," for it is clear nobody anticipated the sect. The truth is, the principal party himself—the Czar Alexander—was surprised, for he accepted terms which, only a few days before, he had pronounced inadmissible. The King of Prussis, whose rôle in the present European drama has throughout been regarded with supreme contempt, appears, after all, to have found the mainspring of the whole business. Count Manteuffel accertained for him at Vienna that the Austrian offensive and defensive treaty with Prussia, signed April 20, 1864, was, de facto, at an end, and that the territories of Prussis, already menaced by the contemplated blockade of her ports, was not safe for a moment; that, in fact, Austria was steeped to the chin in the Western alliance, and without the acceptance, Russis, of the propositions, the allies would infallible have the assistance of he: armies. There was no mis take about it this time; and King William, thoroughly alarmed, wrote off instanter letters to the Caur, and also to the grand Duke Constantine. M. de Nesselrode took the opportunity of skilfully combining all these matters and laying them before the Council of State at St. Petersburg, the result of which was a majority in favor of terms which had been indignantly refused a day or two before, and the Czar accepted the propositions The fifth point, about which so much has been saidnamely, the power to impose special guarantees—I sus-pect was not cit so vaguely as the words imply. The nature of these guarantees was explained to Ru fore she signified her acceptance of the propositions, and they apply to the non-reconstruction of Bomarsund, the establishment of consuls in the Euxine, and the exact demarcation of the Russian frontier in Asia.

It remains to be seen how the Russian population will view the matter, for they are no less suddenly taken was at its height on the merning of the 18th, and at night a rumor prevailed that the Czar had yielded. One annot help suspecting that the European ferment of the last two years cannot be instantly allayed by the "yes" er "no" of one man, be he King or Kaisar; and not withstanding the reputed good faith of Alexander, diffi-

withstanding the reputed good faith of Alexander, diffi-culties may yet arise over which he is powerless.

A general report prevails that the conferences or con-gress to be held will take place here. The Emperor is said to be anxious that Paris should have this advantage. The French nation, he says, so sorely wounded in her amour propre by the treaties of Vienna, cannot fail to be twached by such an act of confidence on the part of twiched by such an act of confidence on the part of England. Besides, this is the season when Parislan commerce looks to make its returns, and the presence of a number of dignitaries will give the season an impulse which, in a political as well as commercial point of view, is most desirable after the sacrifices the army has made. He argues that in London, where a free Parliament will be sitting, a congress would be quite misplaced. It is suspected that Lord Palmerston himself intends to be the representative of England, and that a conviction of the mense value of time to him would tend to cut short discussions which might otherwise be prolix. The three

representative of England, and that a conviction of the immense value of time to him would tend to cut short discussions which might otherwise be prolix. The three great field nights of the British Parliament are fuendays. Ihurs's ys and Fridays. Wednesday is always a dies non, and very often Monday. This, therefore, would easily admit of the Premier's absence for a couple of days, now that Paris and London are within eight hours, by such express trains as Prime Ministers can command.

The Crimean medal distributed to the French troops in the name of the Queen of England is so heavy that it breaks away from the pin which fastens it to the coat. Among the articles picked up and deposited at the Prefecture for the last week are no less than twelve of these medals, which have been lost by the soldiers.

In political circles I fine a strong belief in the justice of the American view of the Central American question. The French view is decidedly in accordance with that of the United States. "If: 'It is said, 'It make with my proprietor an engagement not to occupy his apartment, I piedge my-self to withcraw from it.' The word 'prospective' cannot apply in such a case without an absurdity; and it is not possible to believe that Sir Henry Bullwer understood the words in any other sense than Mr. Clayton. Every one desires to see this bone of contention removed, so soon as the Russian business is arranged.

It may be remembered that in July last, Mrs. Ridgway, an American lady of great beauty and wealth, long recident in Paris, brought an action before the Civil Tribunal against the Duke de Valmy and others, to establish her cialm to share with her relative, the Duchesse Ce Plaisance, in the distribution of the property appertaining to the family. She did this in right of her descent from Thomas Holyd Moore, borther of Elizabeth Moore, and as Mrs. Ridgway, and American lady of great beauty and wealth, long readent in Paris, brought has now appealed, and yestorday. Benoyer, his advocate, required that Mrs. Ridgway is the

a delicacy of detail which renders it one of the most striking peatites in a city where everything ete is besutiful; and the statues of the heroes of the Grand Army which ornament the Louvre, ere many of them worthy to be placed by some of the best models of antiquity.

A good desi of gossip is going on about an apparent extrangement between Jerome Bonaparts and the Emperor. At a period when the hope of founding a dynasty is uppermost in Louis Napoleon's thoughts, any cooleess on the part of relations who shard nearest the throne has a chaagreeable look with it. The reason alleged is the non-promotion of Prince Napoleon's officers.

BERTIE.

#### OUR BERLIN CORRESPONDENCE.

Buntin, Jan. 22, 1856. The Acceptance of the Péace Propositions by Russia—The Effect and Excilement in Berlin—What are the Terms: —Will they Lead to Peace?—M. de Sechach's Mission— Is he a Special Envoy of Mapoleon ?- Marriage in the Royal Pamily, de , de.

intelligence from St. Petersburg has not yet subsided. Nothing is talked of but the approaching peace, and many are the hopes and expectations it gives rise to. The Stock Exchange has been taken completely by surprise, and recurities of all kinds, after experiencing a steady fall for several weeks together, have suddenly grown as buoyant as corks, and are rising like the quicksilver in the thermometer on a supprise of the hull of the companion. budyant as corra, and are rising like the questiffer on a sunny day; the bulls are rampacat, and the bears in a state of desperation. Even nature appears to sympathize with the general feeling, and after a bitter cold spell the weather has all at once become so mild and genial, that people are laying aside their furs, and preparing for the advent of spring, which seems ready to burst prematurely upon the "winter of our dis-So far the prediction I hazarded in the letter addresse

to you on Christmas eve has been verified. After some hesitation, real or affected, the Car has accepted the Austrian propositions, and the conferences of Vienna will soon be disinterred from the tomb of all the Capulets, in which they have reposed quietly for the last nine months or so. I hope I may be mistaken, but I am inclined to believe my anticipations respecting the issue of the negotiations about to be entered on will turn out to be equally well founded. The public are apt to be oblivicus, but they ought to recoilect that this is the third time that proposals, transmitted through the medium of Austria to the Court of St. Petersburg, has been accepted, "purely and simply," as the French have it; the first old not prevent the war from breazing out, the second from continuing with redoubled force and exasperation and it remains to be seen whether the third will lead to more favorable results. It should not be overlecked that the "four points," even with a fifth tacked to them, are not a regular treaty of peace, but only the preliminaries, or basis, on which the treaty is to be concluded, and are nearly all of them so loosely worded as to be susceptible of a widely different interpretation. For instance, it is stipulated that neither of the two Powers possessing territories on the Black Sea is to retain war arsenels or fortifications on the coast which might interfere with the intended "neutralization," but does this clause include Nicholaies, which is not exactly on the Back Sea, but on the river logul? And what reference has it to the Sea of Azoff, which is really a mare cleanum, being completely surrounded by Russian terri-tory? If the rea of Azeff is included, would not the Rushas be justified in requiring the neutralization to be exfended to the Sea of Marmora? Again, the "recti-Scation" of the Russian frontier on the Danube is granted by that Power in exchange for the positions occupied by the silies in the Crimea; but how is it with Kara? No mention is made of that fortress in the five points, and Russia is, therefore, under no engagements concerning it. Is she to keep it, or can she be expected to give it up without an equivalent, when the allies insist upon one for their con-quests? Altegether, the regulation of the frontiers may lead to endiess difficulties, as the French or Austrian diplematists, when drawing their new line of demarcation, omitted to ascertain the existence of the mountain ous ridge which is stated to extend from Chotym to the Danube, and which no one acquain ed with the topograpby of those regions has ever heard of before. The re-ligious question, to which Russia has always affected to attach so much importance, is, perhaps, the knottlest point of any, it being clearly impossible to secure the Rayahs in the enjoyment of the civil and religious immunities promised them without the Christian powers exercising a surveillance fatal to the independence of Turkey, which it was the ostensible object of the war to

defend and gus-antee. Thus the pacific termination of this great struggle is hedged round on all sides with doubts and difficulties that can only be overcome by the disp'ay of great tact on the part of the mediating Powers, and a conciliatory spirit on that of the belligerents. If all parties were sin-cerely desirous of peace, it would of course be concluded, even in the face of obstacles still more appalling. it is notorious that whatever may be the opinious of the English government, the English nation have no such desire; and as to Russia, we may reasonably suspect that she is now anxious to dissolve the formidable coalition arrayed against her, or to prevent it from being strengthened by the accession of new members, than to make peace on conditions mortifying to her pride, though not permanently affecting her power. By renewing the con'erences she affords Austria an excuse for persisting in her " masterly inactivity," deters the Scandinavian in her "masterly inactivity," deters the Scandinavian kingdoms from openly joining the allies, paralyzes the warlike preparations of France and England, and then may break off the negotiations at any time rather than sign a final treaty on the terms offered her. The question is, therefore, will the allies consent to meet their adversary half way, and compromise the mutter by mutual concessions? It is pretty certain that England, if left to herself, would not abate one iota of her demands, but it is generally believed that Louis Napoleon will show himself less inexorable, and it is now and then hinted that Baron Seebach was the bearer of a conidential message to that effect from the French autocrat to the Emperor Alexander. To be sure, the English papers scout the idea of the Saxon diplomatist having been entrusted with any such commission, and even go the length of asserting that his journey was entirely un-connected with politics; but no one in his senses will believe that Nesselrode's son in-law would post off from Paris to Petersburg, in the depth of winter, for no other purpose than to wish his papa a merry Christmas and happy New Year. On the contrary, both here and in Paris, M. de Seebach's expedition was lecked upon as an event of the highest importance, and I have heard it stated on good authority, that it is to his representations and not to the persuasive eloquence of Count Buol, that the unexpected acquiescence of the Car is to be attributed. It is well known how devoted his Galine Majesty is to the "ldeex Napoliconicanes." how jealously he endeavors to revive the tradi ions of the first Empire, and how eagerly he copies it even in its smallest minutic, and possibly he may be willing to press in the world with the spectacle of a second Napoleon and a second Alexander concluting a second peace of Risid, and meeting at a second congress of Krurt. Besides, he has attained all the objects which really induced him to wage war against the barbarians of the North. He has raised himself to the same pre-eminence among the sovereigns of Europe that was enjoyed by the late Car Nicholas; his troops have covered themselves with glory at the expense of their friends as well as of their enemies, and he may think it high time to repose upon his laurels, and to occupy himself with the internal condition of his Empire, which is notiquite so satisfactory as its external relations. As for the man of the coup d'étal being seriously anxious to promote the cause of humanity and divilination, which has served him as so useful a staking herse for his ambition, that, of course, is all indge. At any rate, he is now more than ever master of the situation," and the tate of the world dejence upon his nod.

The whereabouts of the future congress is not yet decided upon. Some mention Paris, others Dreeden or Bussels, but all previous negotiations having been carried on at Vienna, transferring them to another place would evince a want of consideration towards Austria, which the Western Powers are not likely to be guilty of, after she has just been exerting herself so successfully in their twor. Prussia, who had seconded the Austrian ultimatum by the most urgent representations, though without making its rejection a cause belds, will certai looked upon as an event of the highest importance, and I have heard it stated on good authority, that it is

State, and Prussian Plenipotentiary at the conferences of Preceden in 1850.

At present the Court of Berlin is engaged in a round of festivities occasioned by the Sancoilles of the daughter of the Prince of Prussia, with the Prince Regent of Baden, which came off on Thursday last. The relatives of both the royal families here collected together in great force to witness the happy event, and levees, balls, manquerades and reviews follow each other in rapid succession. The King is in high spirits; and encouraged by the promising result of his pacific endeavors in the field of politics, he has ventured upon a still more difficult task, and is actually said to have effected a reconciliation between the Queen and her sister-in-law, the Princess of Prussia, who have had a domestic fend of many years' standing. His health, however, continues to be precations; the complaint which hought him to the vares of the grave a few mon his since heaving the company of the complaint which he have a result of the complaint which have been continued in the continues to be precation; the complaint which have a result of the continues to be precation; the complaint which have a result of the continues to be precation; the complaint which have a result of the continues to be precation; the complaint which have a result of the continues to be precation; the complaint which have a result of the continues to the continues to the continues to the continues to the continues of the continue

it is feared a repitition of the attacks will eventually lead to fatal cons-quences.

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After unusually pretracted vacations, the Chambers, as peeple will persist in calling them, in spite of their new title of Diet, have again met and proceeded to business. In the House of Lords, the Prince of Hobenlohe has been elected President, in the room of the Prince of Pless, deceased. In the House of Representatives, the chairman protem, Count Enlemberg, in continued in his office for the balance of the seasion the liberal candidate, Count Schwaris, having been finally rejected. The rescribus stappear celermised to make good use of the overwhelming majority they possess in both houses, and not deeming it advisable to do away with the constitution "purely and simply," they are ondeavoring to weed it as fast as possible of all objectionable elements. Thus, a recolution has just been brought forward for risel using two of its most important enactments, fur the pe agraph stating that all Pressian citizens are equal in he eye of the law, and justice is to be administered without distinction of clauses, and the clause stipulating the entire removal of religence disabilities. By this move the aristocracy are to be reinstated in the free enjoyment of their nacional privileges, and the Jews, who are quite numerous here, and from their weath and intelligence form a very inflaential portion of the community, are to be reduced once nonce to the condition of Parlais and debarred from the exercise of all political rights. Ne-doubt the liberal party in the Chambers will do everything in their power to defeat these projects, but their ranks have be use thinned by the late elections, as to deprive them of their considers we also as only the late elections, as to deprive them of their considers we also so and the reaction can hardy fall to obtain a complete triumph.

#### OUR VIENNA CORRESPONDENCE.

VIHNNA, Jan. 21, 1864. Will Kars be Given Up?-Will England Agree to a Peace?-The Necessity of a Peace to Europe-Arrived Captain Benham of the United States Engi

Since last I addressed you (this day week) a mighty change has taken place in the political situation of afairs in Europe. Before these lines can reach their destination you will doubtless have been informed by your London and Paris correspondents that, contrary to the general expectation, the Emperor of Russia condescended to accept the Austrian ultimatum on the 17th inst., on which day, in the evening, about nine o'clock, a tele-graphic despatch was received by the Imperial Cabinet from Count Esterhazy, the Austrian Amba-Petersburg, announcing this important event. It so hap-rened that a ball was given on the same evening at the imperial palace, and the Emperor of Austria availed him. imperial palace, and the Emperor of Austria availed himself of this opportunity to communicate this all-important intelligence to his distinguished guests. As may be easily supposed, this great event, which holds out reasonable prospects of a speedy peace, has been universally greeted with the most lively and unfelged satisfaction, especially in this city. But although the world at large is apparently extremely confident that the peace negotiations thus auspiciously begun wid also be brought to a happy and successful termination, yet it will be wise not to indulge in over-sanguine expectations.

There are yet many and extremely grave difficulties to se overcome before the anxiously wished for peace can be finally concluded. The courier who is expected to arrive here from St. Petersburg on the 24th inst., with the written despatches confirmatory of the iclographic intelli-gence that the Russian Cabinet has "fully and without recervation" accepted the 'five" points of the Austrian proposals, must be patiently awaited, and the details of these despatches must become known before a sate and sound judgment can be passed upon this unexpected concession on the part of the Emperor Alexander II., who has thus subscribed to preliminaries of peace, diotated, as it were, by the Vienna Cabinet, and acting in accordance with its Western allies. The great question which has to be upraveiled is, how far may the sincerty which has to be derived it, now it has the success.

of Russia, in her present unreceived acceptance of the Austrian ultimatum, he relied upon? Strange to say, the five points of the ultimatum were framed and forwarded to St. Petersburg before the capitulation of Kars was known in Europe, and hence it is doubted by some politicians whether the restitution of Kare to Turkey is sufficiently provided for in this otherwise very ably drawn up State paper, the contents of which are now to serve, as ptace preliminaries. These reasoners, locking at the matter in a lawyer like spirit, apprehend that, unless the general principle here applies, that the integrity of the Ottoman empire is the first indispensable integrity of the Ottoman empire is the first indispensable condition for all peace negotiations, Russia may yet set up claims of indemnification, if called upon to restere Kars and the Tarkish territory in Asia, now in her possession, which, supposing they aimed at an extension her former Asiatic boundary, may prove expendingly inconvenient, and more especially so to England, as neither France nor Austria would have any direct interest at stake in contenting against such claims. But these are state in contending against such claims. But these are doubts and misgivings which can only be entertained by those who are prepared to impugn Russia's sincerity in the present peace negotiations. For my own part, I have reason to believe that, with the the actual prospects of peace. They have all had enough of war. The early restoration of peace is also more or less a necessity for them all—England, as I have before said, alone excepted. Russia pants for peace, having neither hopes nor prespects of finding allies ready her chances of being worsted increase from year to year, as her enemies increase in number and power from eas campaign to another. Russia, therefore, has much to lose, and hardly anything to gain by a further prosecu-tion of the war; besides, her internal resources, both in point of men and treasure, have already been fearfully exhausted; her commerce has been already sadly ruined, and her revenues have been lamentably orippied. She wants peace, in a word, to enable her to recover both physically and morally from the unanticule encountries of the war; and above all, she must feel the occessity of righting herself again in the good opinion and estimation of Europe. The Emperor Alexander II., therefore, has motives sufficiently powerful to

opinion and estimation of Europe. The Emperor Alexander II., therefore, has motives sufficiently powerful te induce him to conclude a peace, though the price of that peace be both dear and but ter.

Turkey stands more in need of peace than any other Power on the face of the globe. The sick man is literally as hard up as it is possible for a Sultan to be, whose expire and government superabound with the elements of an inevitable dissolution, which nothing but a complete regeneration can effectually stars off for any length of time. The greatest boon which can be accorded to Turkey is—a speedy peacs.

In new concluding this peace, France will also be vastly benefitted; the former prestige of her arms under Napoleon I. regained, and fresh laurels sarned, to gratify the national pride, Napoleon III. has recovered and influenced a power for his country in Europa, such as no monarch in France, since the days of his great usele, culd beast of. It must be confessed that great have been the sacrifices which the French nation have made since the commencement of this struggle. The Emperor Napoleon knows and feels this full well. But his is unquestionably the great master mind that mainly rules the desirates of Europe in our days; and there is every reason to believe that he conceives the measure of the sacrifices of his country to be fuil. His objects in waging the present war have been achieved—success has attended his policy. France and Europe would now be grateful to him for the restoration of the peace. With this general grainder worker, and hence Napoleon III. will now be found to purpose.

There are many people here, who are generally well tenterment.

and the greatness of France will become inseparably interwoven; and hence Napoleon III. will now be found to acvocate peace with all the sincerity and determination of purpose.

There are many people here, who are generally well informed, who firmly believe that the framing of the Austrian ultimatum, its transmission to St. Petersburg, its advocacy there by Prussia, Bavaria and Saxony; has first qualified and final unconditional acceptance by Russia, were all parts and parcels of a grand schema, elevely and ably preconcerted, with the view of arriving at the desired result, id cst—peace. Of course, an immense deal is said about the resolute policy of Austria in these later negotiations; nor is if possible to deny the highest meed of praise to her exquisite diplomacy. She will and must come out of these complications, if a peace be now concluded, with flying colors, and deservedly so; but the fact of her having considerably reduced her army almost immediately—that is, about six weeks previous to he ceparture of Count Valentine Esterhary with the ultimatum for St. Petersburg—is a very curious circumstance, and one which goes a great way to justify the suspicion of the existence of a preconcerted scheme. And them again, the secret mission of Baron Seebach, the Thoes Ambassador at the Court of the Tuileries, (and son-in-law to Count Nesselrode), from Paris to St. Petersburg and back again, savors much of a confirmation of this suspicion. But the great and all-important question now arises:—Supposing such a plot for the pacification of Europe to have been set on foot, can England be a willing party to it? Probabilities are against such as assumption. The general opinion here, is, that England is at heart averse to these peace negotiations, and that her Britannic Majesty's government were constrained to assent thereto, "bow gré, mal gré," out of consideration for their great Erench ally! In short, that England either which so require recognituation from my pen. If then be so, the speedy conclusion of a general peace

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